

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JAKART 14221 051124Z

43

ACTION EA-14

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R 050851Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9826

INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMCONSUL MEDAN

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS ID

SUBJ: ARREST OF COMMUNISTS IN WEST KALIMANTAN

REF: A. DAO REPORT 6 845 0672 73

B. JAKARTA 12112 C. JAKARTA 8600 OF 8/23/72

SUMMARY: FOLLOWING VISIT BY GENERAL SUMITRO TO THE AREA, SECURITY AUTHORITIES HAVE ANNOUNCED RECENT ARRESTS OF SEVERAL "NEW STYLE PKI" LEADERS IN WEST KALIMANTAN. THERE IS ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE OF GOI CONCERN ABOUT RECENT STEP-UP IN TERRORISM, EXTENDING TO AREAS SOME DISTANCE FROM BORDER.
END SUMMARY

1. ACCORING DEFENSE SECURITY AUTHORITIES (KOPKAMTIB) SERIES OF ARRESTS HAVE NETTED SEVERAL TOP LEVEL LEADERS OF "NEW STYLE PKI" IN WEST KALIMANTAN AND REVEALED WIDESPREAD ORGAINIZATION CONSISTING OF A CENTRAL COMMITTE UNDER SA SOFYAN (A FUGATIVE
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PAGE 02 JAKART 14221 051124Z

MEMBER OF PKI NATIONAL CENTRAL COMMITTEE) AND (AT

NEXT LEVEL) A COSTAL REGION COMMITTEE AND KAPUAS REGION COMMITTEE. KOPKAMTIB PRESS STATEMENT ISSUED FOLLOWING RECENT (NOV28-DEC1) VISIT OF DEPUTY ARMED FORCES COMMANDER GENERAL SUMITRO TO WEST KALIMANTAN CONTRASTED "ORGANIZED" ACTIVITIES OF WEST KALIMANTAN PKI WITH "FORMLESS" (ORGANIZASI TANPA BENTUK-OTB, LITERALLY "ORGANIZATION WITHOUT FORM) CHARACTER OF PRESENT PKI ACTIVITIES " ON JAVA AND OTHER AREAS."

2. ACCORDING STATEMENT, "NEW STYLE PKI" FIRST CAME TO ATTENTION OF AUTHORTIES AFTER LEAFLET SCATTERING INCIDENTS IN MAY 1972 (REF C). SUBSEQUENTLY THE "GREATER PART" OF THE KAPUAS AND COASTAL REGION COMMITTEES HAVE BEEN ARRESTED, THE STATEMENT SAID. AMONG THE ARRESTS ENUMERATED WERE THOSE OF THE BU KIAT (HEAD OF KAPUAS REGION COMMITTEE), LIM PIN (HEAD OF COASTAL REGION COMMITTEE) AND LIM PIN'S WIFE, A FA, INDENTIFIED AS HEAD OF PONTIANAK TOWN COMMITTEE (SUBORDINATE TO COASTAL REGION COMMITTEE.) STATEMENT ALSO SAID THAT ON OCTOBER 4, 1973 HIDEOUT OF SOFYAN IN TERENTANG AREA WAS RAIDED, HIS WIFE, CHILD AND BODYGUARD CAPTURED, AND VARIOUS FIREARMS INCLUDING FIVE STEN GUNS AND AMMUNITION SEIZED. (DAO HAS REPORTED FULL DETAILS OF ADDITIONAL ARRESTS ANNOUNCED-SEE REF A.) STATEMENT NOTED GENERAL SUMITRO WARNING THAT COMMUNISTS ARE FORMING CADRES WITH AIM OF LONG-TERM STRUGGLE. STATEMENT SAID NOTHING ABOUT ORGANIZATIONAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN "NEW STYLE PKI" AND PARAKU GUERILLAS.

3. COMMENT: STATEMENT MAY BE TAKEN AS ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE OF RECENTLY INCREASED INSURGENT ACTIVITY IN WEST KALIMANTAN. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IN ARMY PRESS CONCERNING LATE SEPTEMBER AMBUSH NORTH OF SINGKAWANG (REF B) HAS REVEALED THAT THERE MAY HAVE BEEN AS MANY AS SEVENTEEN CASUALTIES. IN CONVERSATION WITH HANKAM SOURCES, DEFATT HAS SINCE LEARNED OF AT LEAST TWO ADDITIONAL RECENT INCIDENTS (NEITHER AS SERIOUS) LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 JAKART 14221 051124Z

IN WHICH INDONESIAN MILITARY TOOK CASUALTIES. GROWNING LEVEL OF GOI CONCERN ABOUT AREAS WHERE (UNTIL RECENTLY) ACTIVE INSURGENCY HAD BEEN AT VERY LOW LEVEL HAS BEEN SIGNIFIFIED BY OFFICIAL CANCELLATION IN PAST MONTH OF PREVIOUSLY APPROVED TRAVEL TO WEST KALIMANTAN BY BOTH AMERICAN AND WEST GERMAN AMBASSADORS. (HOWEVER GOI HAS APPROVED SOME LOW-LEVEL DIPLOMATIC TRAVEL TO THE AREA.)

4. IT APPEARS OBVIOUS THAT GOI IS CONCERNED ABOUT
RENEWED ACTIVITY BY TERRORISTS IN AREAS AT SOME
DISTANCE FROM BORDER SANCTUARIES. DEFATT AND
EMBASSY WILL COOPERAE ON FURTHER ANALYSIS OF RECENT
DEVELOPMENTS. AT THE VERY LEAST IT INDICATES
WHAT WE HAVE KNOWN ALL ALONG-THAT THE ALMSOT WHOLLY ETHNIC
CHINESE INSURGENCY IN BORNEO HAS ROOTS
AMONG THE POPULATION IN WEST KALIMANTAN AND IS NOT
MERELY AN EXTENSION OF THE SARAWAK PROBLEM,
AS THE GOI IS FOND OF SAYING.
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